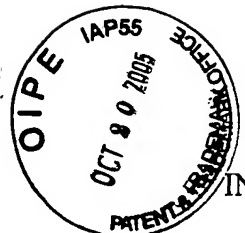


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Kenneth Stewart
Serial No.: 10/634,368
Filed: August 6, 2003
For: Bone Instrument Cover or Shield
Art Unit: 3736

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

October 16, 2005

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Respectfully Submitted
Evelyn M. Sommer
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Application Number	10/634368
Filing Date	8/6/03
First Named Inventor	K. STEWART
Art Unit	3736
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	STEWART

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Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96).

☒ Attorney or Agent of record. Registration Number 19683

☐ Registered practitioner named in the application transmittal letter in an application without an executed oath or declaration. See 37 CFR 1.33(a)(1). Registration Number

Typed or Printed
Name

EVELYN M. SOMMER

Signature

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Date

1/27/05

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NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below.

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(19) United States

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(54) BONE INSTRUMENTATION COVER OR SHIELD

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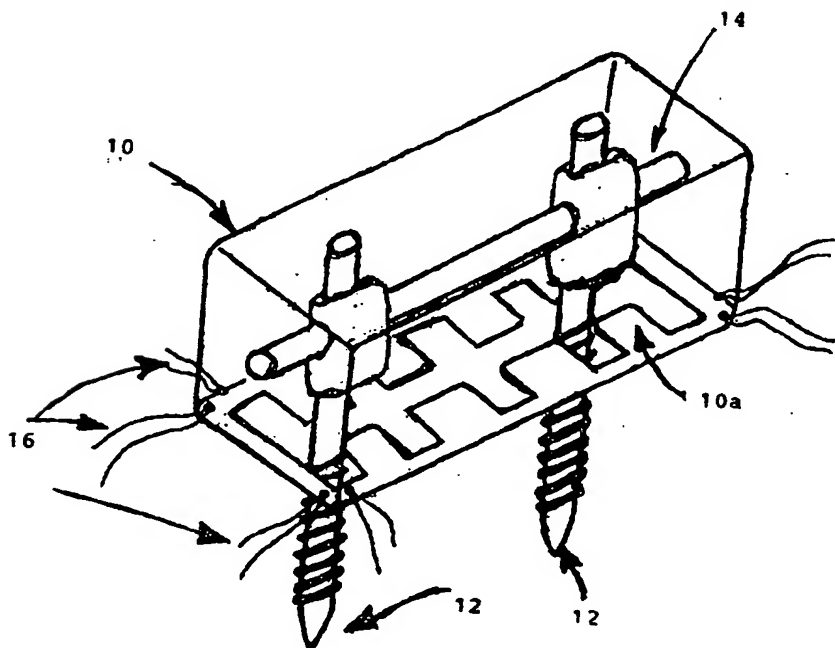
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(52) U.S. Cl. 606/72; 606/53

ABSTRACT

(57) A bone instrumentation cover or shield has a hollow cap or casing for encapsulating projecting parts of instrumentation installed in a bone, and a fastener portion provided at a lower edge of the cap or casing for securing it to the bone or to parts of the instrumentation where it is installed in the bone. The instrumentation shield or cover is designed to provide a medically-safe physical barrier for implantation between projecting parts of bone instrumentation constructs and surrounding bone and soft tissues, in order to minimize local irritation or injury and also serve as a barrier to ingrowth from bone and/or fibrous tissues. The shield or cover can be formed in a variety of forms, from rigid casing, to semi-pliable sheath-like structure, to soft pouch or cinch sack. The cap or casing is readily applied over the instrumentation, then cinched, tied or fastened to the instrumentation or adjacent areas, using a locking toothed edge, suture ties, suture strings, drawstrings and the like. The cover is made of medically safe material, and can come in various sizes or constructed to be pliable, stretchable, or adaptable with slidable, displaceable or pleated panels.



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